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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/788,261      | 02/19/2001  | Matthias Krull       | 1997DE403C/CIP      | 4929             |

25255 7590 03/15/2004

CLARIANT CORPORATION  
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EXAMINER

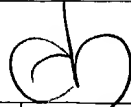
TOOMER, CEPHIA D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1714

DATE MAILED: 03/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|                              |                                      |  |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b><br>09/788,261 | <b>Applicant(s)</b><br>KRULL ET AL.  |
|                              | <b>Examiner</b><br>Cephia D. Toomer  | <b>Art Unit</b><br>1714  |

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 December 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 and 16-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 and 16-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                    | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

The Office action is a response to the amendment filed December 5, 2003 in which a terminal disclaimer was filed (accepted); a declaration was submitted by Dr. Krull; and claims 1, 3, 4, and 7-8 were amended; claim 15 was canceled and claim 18 was added.

The previous rejections of the claims under 35 USC 112 are withdrawn in view of the amendment to the claims.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
2. Claims 1-2, 5-14 and 16-18 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mitsubishi Petrochemical (EP 217602) in view of applicant's admitted prior art and WO9523200 (Brown) for the reasons of record.
3. Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mitsubishi in view of Applicants admitted prior art and WO9523200(Brown), as applied to the above claims, further in view of Reimann (US 5,254,652) for the reasons record.

Applicant admit that there is over lapping subject between the patent (Mitsubishi) and the present claims, However, applicant states that he has obtained results that are unobvious and unexpected with the narrower claimed range.

The examiner respectfully disagrees. The examiner has reviewed the data of the specification and that of the Declaration submitted by Dr. Krull. The showings are not commensurate in scope with the claims. The claims contain as the additive either the

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flow improver or the oil-soluble co-additive or a mixture of the two. There are no examples wherein the co-additive is used. Even the examples wherein the flow improver is used, the flow improvers are limited to ethylene-vinyl neodecanoate copolymer and ethylene-stearyl acrylate copolymer. The flow improvers of the claims read on far more compounds than exemplified. There are no examples where (B2) is of the formula 2(a). The examiner cannot ascertain if unexpected results are obtained.

In Table 2 of the declaration, while the copolymers of the present invention are less effective than the conventional ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, the copolymer of the present invention are still effective in oils that are outside of applicants claimed properties.

Applicants argues that the amended claims excluded the comb polymers of the present invention,

The examiner agrees. However, the claims are open because applicant is claiming a fuel oil middle distillate composition 'comprising'. Applicant has limited the flow improvers to the recited copolymers but adds co-additives which fall within the category of Mitsubishi's "additional" low temperature flow improvers". Therefore, the claims are actually open to other flow improvers. It should be noted that Brown is relied upon for teaching the same mineral oils as those of the present invention and not for the flow improver.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

4. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

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The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

5. Claims 1 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Applicant has amended claim 1 and submitted in new claim 18 that the co-additive is terpolymers of ethylene. Upon inspection of the specification, it is clear that the terpolymers of ethylene are vinyl-acetate containing terpolymers of ethylene (see page 11, lines 3-5). Applicant has broadened the limitation regarding the terpolymer.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

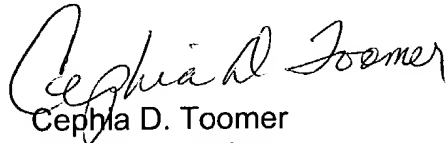
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the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cephia D. Toomer whose telephone number is 571-272-1126. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasu Jagannathan can be reached on 571-272-1119. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Cephia D. Toomer  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1714

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